Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.- 20. (canceled).

21.   (currently amended) A method for processing queries, the method comprising:

sorting queries into a plurality of subsets along a dimension, wherein the plurality of subsets includes a first subset and a second subset;

generating a first concept network for the first subset of queries;

generating a second concept network for the second subset of queries;

performing a comparison between the first concept network and the second concept network, wherein performing a comparison includes performing a comparison of information from the first concept network related to a unit with information from the second concept network related to the same unit; and

generating trend information based on the comparison.

22.   (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the dimension is a time dimension.

23.   (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the dimension is defined by reference to one or more demographic characteristics of users.

24.   (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the dimension is a geographic dimension.

25.   (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the dimension is a vertical dimension representing a user context of the query.

26.   (canceled).

27.   (previously presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein the step of generating trend information includes generating trend information for said unit relative to the dimension.

28.   (previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
receiving a first query, wherein the first query contains one or more terms; and
using the trend information in formulating a response to the first query, wherein a
        response to the first query contains one or more records.

29.   (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:
using the trend information to resolve an ambiguous term of the first query.

30.   (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:
using the trend information to suggest a second query, wherein the second query
        contains at least one term different than said first query.

31.   (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:
using the trend information to group the one or more records in the response to the first
query.

32.   (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:
using the trend information to select an advertisement for display.

33.   (currently amended) A system for processing queries, comprising:
one or more processors;
a memory, operatively coupled to the processors;
a trend analysis module stored in the memory and configured to cause the one or more
        processors to sort a set of queries into a plurality of subsets along a dimension,
        wherein the plurality of subsets includes a first subset and a second subset;

a clustering module stored in the memory and configured to cause the one or more processors to generate a first concept network for the first subset of queries [[an d]] and a second concept network for the second subset of queries; and

wherein the trend analysis module is further configured to cause the one or more processors to perform a comparison between the first concept network and the second concept network concept networks for at least two of the subsets, thereby generating trend information;

wherein the trend analysis module is further configured to cause the one or more processors to perform a comparison of information from the first concept network related to a unit with information from a second concept network related to the same unit.

34. (currently amended) The system of claim [[31]] 33, wherein the dimension is a time dimension.

35. (currently amended) The system of claim [[31]] 33, wherein the dimension is defined by reference to one or more demographic characteristics of users.

36. (currently amended) The system of claim [[31]] 33, wherein the dimension is a geographical dimension.

37. (currently amended) The system of claim [[31]] 33, wherein the dimension is a vertical dimension representing a user context of the query.

38. (canceled).

39. (currently amended) The system of Claim [[32]] 33, wherein the trend analysis module is further configured to cause the one or more processors to generate trend information for said unit relative to the dimension.

40.   (currently amended) The system of claim [[32]] 33, further comprising:

a response module stored in the memory and configured to cause the one or more

processors to receive a first query, wherein the first query contains one or more

terms, and to formulate a response to the first query based at least in part on the

trend information, wherein the response to the first query contains one or more

records.

41.   (previously presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the response module is further

configured to cause the one or more processors to use the trend information to resolve

an ambiguous term of the first query.

42.   (previously presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the response module is further

configured to cause the one or more processors to use the trend information to suggest a

second query, wherein the second query contains at least one term different from said

first query.

43.   (previously presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the response module is further

configured to cause the one or more processors to use the trend information to group

one or more records in the response to the first query.

44.   (previously presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the response module is further

configured to cause the one or more processors to use the trend information to select an

advertisement for display.